



SDDC CONNECTION

Volume 1 Issue 2

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- Standing Committee for the SDDC off to a great start at Partners' Conference
- Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) FYI
- SDDC Partner Highlight: Communication Service for the Deaf
- Check out SDDC information at <http://diabetes.sd.gov>

2nd Annual Partners' Conference: A Success

"Partnering together to impact diabetes" is the battle cry of the South Dakota Diabetes Coalition. And that is just what this coalition has set out to do.

The SDDC 2nd Annual Partners' Conference convened individuals and organizations committed to make a difference in South Dakota for diabetes.

Mary Oyos (Avera McKennan) stated "The coalition provides an opportunity for individuals from across the state with an interest in diabe-

tes to pool their expertise and develop strategies to improve diabetes care in South Dakota. As the number of South Dakotans with diabetes continues to grow, we must develop better support systems and raise the standard of care to make life better for people with diabetes. Coalition members are committed to working collaboratively to meet these goals."

The day was full of learning, networking, and just plain old-fashioned hard work. Presenters included:

- Linda Ahrendt, BS, Med, SD Department

of Health, Administrator in the Office of Health Promotion,

- Cristina Lammers, MD, MPH, University Partners in Health Promotion, and
- Michael Olesen, BS, Abbott Northwestern Hospital (Minneapolis)

The afternoon was spent teaming up with partners and digging into creating solutions for diabetes challenges.

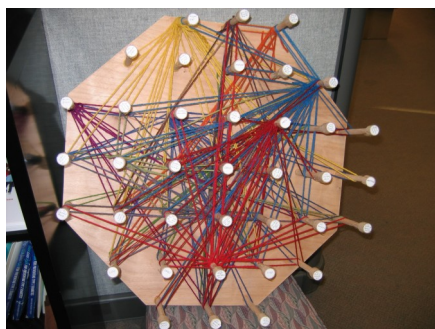
Mert Tice (Rapid City) said of the day "I really appreciated all of those who did such a GREAT JOB in putting this together and we kept on point and were encouraged to participate."

Greetings from the SDDC Chair Sue Johannsen, PA-C, GNP (Huron)

My vision for the SDDC and its Coordinating Panel is to grow a statewide network of concerned individuals and organizations who will work to promote prevention, support families and patients with diabetes, and educate all those impacted by diabetes.

The increase in incidence and prevalence of diabetes, along with its cost are concerning. We hope to strengthen lines of communication to all parties affected by diabetes and to make a difference with this statewide effort. There are

many of us who are passionate about diabetes and are excited about the positive impact this wonderful group can make in South Dakota.



Network Analysis conducted at the Partners' Conference

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”

Henry Ford

SDDC Standing Committees

Four areas of focus have been prioritized for coalition work, and these standing committees' work began at the SD Partners' Conference. The committees are:

Public Awareness seeks to increase levels of public consciousness to reduce the incidence and complications of diabetes,

Professional Education seeks to improve access to quality health care professional diabetes-related education,

Patient Education seeks to provide patient education through the promoting of quality education programs, and

Advocacy seeks to support the concerns of diabetes prevention and con-

trol through encouragement of policy and cultural milieu changes.

Diabetes Prevention and Control FYI

Greetings from the SD Department of Health Diabetes Prevention & Control Program (DPCP). We're extending an invitation for you to receive our monthly electronic newsletter - "A DPCP FYI". The FYI is a way to share information on what is happening in and around South Dakota related to diabe-

tes. It contains a variety of information on continuing education and other conferences, resources, funding and collaboration opportunities, research, data and other information. If you would like to have something posted in the FYI, you can certainly send it to me. Previous FYIs

can be accessed at <http://doh.sd.gov/Diabetes/FYI.aspx>. Just let me know if you'd like to receive the FYI.

Coalition Partner Spotlight

Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD) worked with Mary Oys at the Avera Diabetes Education Center to figure out a way to meet the needs of deaf adults with diabetes. Since Avera offers a monthly support group, an inter-

preter was requested to accommodate the communication needs of the deaf individuals.

Three deaf individuals attended the September support group and "loved" it. They were very pleased to be able to ask questions

instead of waiting for their doctor appointment. The three plan to attend next month's support group too.

If you have a spotlight story, please share it with us at: magstadm@gmail.com.



Check out <http://diabetes.sd.gov>

for SDDC information including the newly released *Burden of Diabetes in South Dakota* report, work-group contact information, upcoming education events, and more.